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Thoughts, essays, and writings on Liberty. Written by the heirs of Patrick Henry.

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- [Doug Mataconis](#): Hampden, Ron Paul and his supporters damaged that campaign all by themselves, I had nothing to do...
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“Nobody spends somebody else's money as carefully as he spends his own. Nobody uses somebody else's resources as carefully as he uses his own. So if you want efficiency and effectiveness, if you want knowledge to be properly utilized, you have to do it through the means of private property.” *Milton Friedman*

July 22, 2009

The Perfect Guidebook As We Travel Down The Road To Serfdom

by Doug Mataconis

As I've noted in the past, [sales of Ayn Rand's Atlas Shrugged have increased significantly over the past year.](#)

Now it appears that [the same is happening to Frederich Hayek's seminal work:](#)

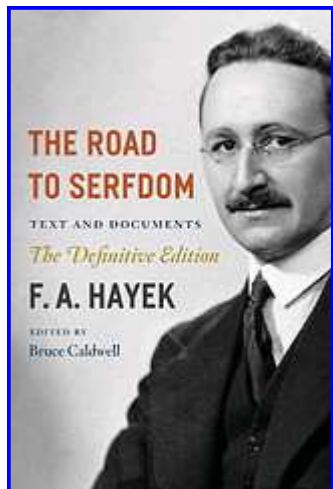
So far this year the most popular edition of *Road to Serfdom* has sold 11,000 copies. That compares with 3,000 copies at the same point last year. That's a 263 percent increase for those of you keeping score at home.

Why? Well, no doubt huge new government spending programs and attempts to massively expand the welfare state send people looking for classic literature that makes the case for liberty and limited government. But what the Marxists call the “objective conditions” can always use a bit of help. And indeed, [just as I found in investigating the sales bump for Atlas Shrugged](#), it looks like an op-ed in the *Wall Street Journal* was instrumental in boosting the sales of *The Road to Serfdom*.

On February 4, former House Majority Leader Dick Armey, now chairman of Freedomworks, published an op-ed in the *Journal* titled [“Washington Could Use Less Keynes and More Hayek.”](#) Sales of *Road to Serfdom*, which were in the low hundreds each week since the beginning of 2009, more than doubled over the next four weeks. It seems likely that Armey's op-ed caused the new interest.

If you haven't read it yet, you ought to. It does a better job than anything of explaining what's wrong with where we're headed in this country.

H/T: [United Liberty](#)



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